



# 2018 TCSEF BULLETIN

<http://www.tcoe.org/stemexpo>

**Tulare County  
Office of Education**

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

## GOALS & MISSION

The TCSEF mission is to:

- Motivate and develop the interests of ALL students in STEM fields,
- Recognize the achievements and efforts of students in STEM,
- Encourage independent research and development in STEM, and
- Identify exemplary projects that will advance to the CA State Science and Engineering Fair.

## WHO MAY ENTER

3<sup>RD</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> grade public, private, parochial or homeschool students in Tulare County may enter their school or district fairs. Selected projects from these Fairs are invited to apply to the Tulare County Science & Engineering Fair.

## LOSS OR DAMAGE

The TCSEF or TCOE (Tulare County Office of Education) does not assume responsibility for loss of or damage to any project or project part. Note: It is advisable to have extra copies of notebooks and other printed materials.

## DIVISIONS & CATEGORIES

### DIVISIONS

- Elem.: 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- Junior: 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Senior: 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade

### CATEGORIES

- Life Science
- Earth and Space Science
- Physical Science: Chemistry
- Physical Science: Physics
- Engineering & Mathematics
- Behavioral and Social Sciences

## 2018 TCSEF DATES

- **January 10, 2018**  
Deadline for 2018 School Registration
- **January 10, 2018**  
Deadline for Restricted Project Compliance Form
- **February 9, 2018**  
Deadline for Project Entry Forms
- **February 26, 2018**  
Deadline for Abstract Form
- **March 9, 2018, 4 to 6 p.m.**  
Exhibitors set up projects – TCOE Liberty Center Multipurpose Room, Visalia.
- **March 10, 2018, 7:30 to 8:15 a.m.**  
Exhibitors set up projects – TCOE Liberty Center Multipurpose Room, Visalia.
- **March 10, 2018, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.**  
Judges score and interview project participants.
- **March 10, 2018, 2– 3:00 p.m.**  
Awards Ceremony – TCOE Planetarium and Science Center

## SPECIAL FEATURES

In order for a project to be considered for awards and advancement to the State Science and Engineering Fair, a detailed notebook must accompany the project. Please, see additional details in the TCSEF Handbook.

1. Each student participant will receive a “Distinguished Project Ribbon” in recognition of their contribution to the development of the scientific process.
2. Thirty “Sweepstakes” Awards will be awarded.
3. Special cash awards presented by professional societies and organizations.
4. Approximately 6 projects will go on to compete in the California State Science Fair.
5. Opportunities for schools and other groups to visit the fair.

## PROJECT DISPLAYS

Displays must consist of three-section boards (wide back panel hinged to side panels which angle forward at roughly 45 degrees) of pegboard, masonite, foam-core board, hardboard or wood. Purchased commercial boards are recommended.

Board size is restricted to 4 feet wide, 2½ feet deep and 6½ feet high.

All boards and notebooks should remain on display until the conclusion of the Awards Assembly.

All projects must be collected after the Award’s Assembly. Any projects not collected will be thrown away that day.

All displays must comply with TCSEF Rules and Regulations. See the TCSEF Event Handbook at [www.tcoe.org/stemexpo](http://www.tcoe.org/stemexpo). Items in violation of the rules will be removed.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### FOR INFORMATION

Nicole Ray – Director  
7000 Doe Avenue, Suite A  
Visalia, CA 93291

Paula Terrill - Student Event  
Coordinator  
7000 Doe Avenue, Suite A  
Visalia, CA 93291  
Phone: (559) 651-0565